

COMMISSION NEWS

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION, 1200 W. WASHINGTON, PHOENIX, AZ 85007

TO: EDITORS, NEWS DIRECTORS

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COMMISSION ATTORNEY EARNS SECOND ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

PHOENIX – The State Bar of Arizona presented their Career Achievement Award to Sharon Fox, Acting Director of Enforcement in the Arizona Corporation Commission's Securities Division. The award honors Fox for her outstanding contributions to public service. The award honors individuals who are "recognized as a model of the dedication and commitment of public attorneys."

Fox received the award June 7 at the Arizona State Bar Convention's Annual Awards Luncheon in Tucson.

This marks the second honor for Fox within the last six months. Earlier this year, the North American Securities Administrators Association (NASAA), a Washington, DC regulatory trade group, honored Sharon Fox with its first annual Enforcement Award for her leadership and aggressive action against fraudulent investment schemes.

Fox has been in securities enforcement for nearly 20 years and has been on the staff of the Commission's Securities Division since the early 1980s. She is responsible for a staff of 20 and the cases each staff member handles. As a Special Assistant Attorney General, she functions as a trial attorney on administrative, civil and criminal cases that are brought before grand juries, bankruptcy court and courts of appeal.

Fox spearheaded several high-profile investigations into fraudulent investment scams. Recently, Fox's actions against companies involved in selling viatical investments have garnered national and regional news coverage. Viatical investments are interests in the death benefits of terminally ill patients.

The death benefit is sold to an investor for cash and when the patient dies, the investor gets the cash.

While continuing to pursue civil and criminal cases on behalf of the Securities Division at the Commission, Fox has been involved with the 50 states, Canada, and Mexico through NASAA. Fox served for several years on the board of directors of the National White Collar Crime Center, a training and litigation support organization.

For more information about safe investing or to learn about recent cases brought by the Securities Division, call the Arizona Corporation Commission's Securities Division or visit the website at www.ccsd.cc.state.az.us. In the Phoenix metro area, call 602-542-4242. From elsewhere in Arizona, call the toll free number: 1-877-811-3878.

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A digital photo of Sharon Fox is available by request through the Public Information Office.